(b) whether it is also a fact that State Government has proposed for allocation of balance 1 billion tonnes to private parties;

(c) if so, the details in this regard; and

(d) the steps Government has taken to earmark the balance area/block for allocation under the proposed Ultra Mega Steel Project?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) As per the information furnished by the Government of Jharkhand, the Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) has been accorded *in principle* approval for renewal of Budhaburu/Ledaburu (Ankua Reserve Forest) IISCO mining lease area over 832.62 hectares containing approximately 800 million tonnes of iron ore reserves. The State Government had earlier agreed to *in principle* renewal of mining lease for Kiriburu/Meghahatuburu mines over an area of 1936.06 hectares, 879.439 hectares and 82 hectares, which account for about 200 million tonnes of iron ore. As such, the State Government has agreed to renewal of mining leases, which would account for one billion tonnes of iron ore.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No decision on this issue has been taken except as mentioned in reply to part (a) above, as the matter is *sub-judice* before the Supreme Court of India.

Illegal mining

1932. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cases of illegal mining has been increasing with the help of officials of mining departments of various States;

(b) if so, the details of the cases in which officials of State mining department were found involved in such illegal mining during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether the State Governments have failed to check such illegal activities in their respective States;

(d) if so, whether the Central Government proposes to give more powers to the States to check such activities; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) Some instances of illegal mining of minerals have come into the notice of the Government in various parts of the country. No data is centrally maintained on the number of officials of State mining department involved in such illegal mining. However, it has come to the notice of Central Government that State Government of Orissa had arrested six officials of State Government and one retired official of State Government for illegal mining in Keonjhar district of Orissa.

(c) Quarterly Return showing the number of cases detected by State Governments, vehicle seized, FIR lodged, court cases filed, fine realized are being sent by concerned State Governments and the details of cases of illegal mining of major/minor minerals detected by the State Governments in the year 2006 to June, 2009 is given in the Statement. (*See* below).

(d) and (e) Minerals are the property of the State Governments and Mineral rights vest with the State Government.

Statement

State-wise and year-wise statement of cases of illegal mining reported by the State Government

Sl. No.	State	Nos. of cases detected by State Governments				Action Taken by State Governments				
		2006	2007	2008	2009 Upto June 2009	Vehicle seized	FIRs Lodged	Court cases filed	Fine realized (Rs. in Lakhs)	Others
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5385	9216	13478	7332	844	—	—	2112.95	
2.	Chhattisgarh	2259	2352	1713	599	—	—	2181	309.16	
3.	Goa	313	13	159	2	322	—	—	15.68	
4.	Gujarat	7435	6593	5492	3720	106	114	8	7085.67	
5.	Haryana	504	812	1209	416	103	138	2	133.33	
6.	Himachal Pradesh	478	—	503	375	—	—	464	21.04	
7.	Jharkhand	631	82	225	—	5592	202	39	108.41	
8.	Karnataka	3027	5180	2997	692	43585	931	771	3630.13	
9.	Kerala	1595	2593	2695	802	—	—	—	532.7	

10.	Madhya Pradesh	5050	4581	3895	2542	—	05	14831	1057.98
11.	Maharashtra	4919	3868	5828	3285	15212	13	—	1129.01
12.	Orissa	284	655	1059	365	1242+ 75 cycles	57	86	2309.36
13.	Punjab	218	26	50	48	—	—	—	2.96
14..	Rajasthan	2359	2265	2178	1130	368	441	59	413.49
15.	Tamil Nadu	2140	1263	1573	98	18722	133	155	6369.96
16.	Uttarakhand	—	—	191	—	683	—	—	38.50
17.	West Bengal	80	426	315	51	3680	897	167	—